

CHAPTER NO. 894

HOUSE BILL NO. 3128

By Representatives Windle, Fitzhugh, Head

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3153

By Senator Kilby

AN ACT to name a bridge in the Lancing community of Morgan County in honor of the late John Douglas Ward.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late John Douglas Ward, who gave his life for his country while serving in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, John Douglas Ward was born and raised in the Lancing community of Morgan County, the only son of John and Hazel Ward; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ward bravely served in the Vietnam War as a member of the United States Armed Forces; he was killed in action in Vietnam on January 31, 1968; and

WHEREAS, John Douglas Ward served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States Armed Forces, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, John Douglas Ward's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, and his country, as exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, a group of citizens from the Lancing community of Morgan County has petitioned this General Assembly to name a certain bridge on State Route 62 to honor the bountiful life of this exceptional young man, and we most heartily concur with this excellent proposal to permanently commemorate the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of the late John Douglas Ward; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the railroad overpass bridge on State Route 62 in the Lancing community of Morgan County is hereby designated as the "John Douglas Ward Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of the late John Douglas Ward.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "John Douglas Ward Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 21, 2004



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 7th day of June 2004



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR